

The Abbeville Press.

BY W. A. LEE AND HUGH WILSON.

ABBEVILLE, S. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1866.

VOLUME XIII. NO. 43.

HICKSITE QUAKER WEDDING.

On entering the house we found the "Friends" seated on benches, arranged as usual to run the lengthway of the house, part of which on the opposite side from the entrance were elevated a step or two above the floor. There were occupied by the dignitaries, "ma and pa," Quakers and Quakeresses, the former with their broad-brim hats and straight-breasted coats, and the latter with their inverted scoop shawl, and colored bonnets, and usually plain general attire.

We took our seat midway from the door in the "Male Department," and, to observe the strict order of the meeting, we had to be irreverent enough to keep our hat on, and, as far as in us lay, put on a solemn countenance, in which position we held ourselves for something like an hour, when a lady in the end of the house opened, and in came a lady and gentleman, followed immediately by another lady and gentleman, whom we soon found to be the "happy couple," and all of whom were, quite to our surprise, very fashionably dressed, and in this regard resembled the world quite as much as either myself or any of our company.

The bride's dress, bonnet and all, was made up of a kind of snuff-colored silk—trimmed in white—the face lining of her bonnet also being white artificials and illusions.

The groom was well and sensibly dressed and might have passed for a country store-keeper instead of a Quaker farmer. After the bustle and somewhat ostentatious ceremony of getting seated—with their backs toward the dignitaries, and faces toward us commoners—was over, then came the tug of war with them—and tug I really think it was, from the very evidently embarrassed air of both parties—I mean now the waiting till the Spirit should move them. On this point there seemed to be some difficulty; at least it required about three quarters of an hour to make the arrangements. But it seemed at last to be reached all of a sudden, for the groom giving a kind of spasmodic jerk, as if reminded of what he had come for, and turning to his blushing bride, took her by the hands, and, both rising to their feet, said: "Friends, in the presence of the Lord and this assembly, I take Miss B. to be my lawful wife, promising to be to her a faithful and loving husband till death do separate us."

The bride then said, "In the presence of the Lord and this assembly, I take Mr. C. S. to be my lawful husband, promising, by Divine assistance, to be to him a loving and faithful wife till death do separate us." They then took their seats again, before them a roll of parchment on which was written the fact of their having appeared at a certain time, and asked permission of that meeting to marry, and that they had appeared, and taking each other by the hand, promised as I have already stated. To this they signed their names, and as all present who witnessed the ceremony were permitted to sign their names as witnesses, the writer, though no Hicksite Quaker, appended his name, and I presume the happy couple when they see it, will wonder much who — is.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says:

It is in my power to-day to communicate a piece of intelligence which will gladden the heart of every friend of unity in the Episcopal Church; and by all who are anxious that there should be at least one Protestant church in the United States preserved from sectional discord. Bishop Elliott, of Georgia, has written a communication to Bishop Hopkins, of Vermont, announcing that, in response to the many fervent appeals from Churchmen, in all parts of the South as well as the North, he has deemed it his duty to withdraw whatever objections he had heretofore urged to immediate and unqualified reunion.

Bishop Elliott further states that he has been in communication with Bishop Williams, of Alabama, on the subject, and that prelate was so prompt to second the desire of his brother Bishop of Georgia, that he at once took the necessary steps for dissolving what yet remains of the independent Southern Church, so-called. Hence the General Council that had been called, in view of the next General Convention of the whole church, will never meet. The Elliott letter will be published in a few days, but it is probable that you have seen it in the columns of the church, who has had opportunity to read it.

An abundance truly says that "you may find a thousand excellent things in a newspaper, and never have a word of application to your mind; but just let a line come out from that same paper, and you will be sure to read it."

NEWSPAPERS.

A well conducted Newspaper is a great and good institution. It nerves the heart of the patriot; it cheers the Philanthropist; strengthens the arm of the Mechanic; gives audience to the Merchant; aids the Professional man in his practice; the Student in his studies; promotes the interest of the Planter, and furnishes useful information and wholesome recreation for all classes. In addition to this, it is largely through the instrumentality of Newspapers that our Railroads are constructed, Cities built up, Rivers made navigable, Commerce promoted, and the Arts and Science extended. A good Newspaper always promotes the cause of true Religion, by inculcating its cardinal doctrines and principles, though this may be done by inference and insinuation frequently, rather than by direct and plain teaching.

If Newspapers do all these things—and who can say they do not—how important it becomes that every family should have at least one of the proper sort for their instruction and improvement. In traveling through the country, no discerning person can fail to notice the great difference in the intelligence of those families that take Newspapers and those that do not.

If you want to know the price of Gold or Bank bills, take the papers; if you want to know the price of cotton, wheat or corn, take the papers; if you want to know the price of butter, eggs, or chickens, take the papers; if you want to know the price of coffee, sugar and specie, take the papers; if you want to know the price of cotton cards and yarns, take the papers; if you wish to buy or sell lands, take the papers; if you want to know who is married or dead, take the papers; if you want to know to know of contagions, fire, or famines, take the paper; if you want to know of wars, and rumors of wars, take the papers; in fine, if you want to know anything that is worth knowing, take a good reliable Newspaper.—*Rome Courier.*

FORGOT IT WHEN IN A FIGHT.

Tim McGowan had his limb crushed when quite a boy. He afterwards lost his life in the Mexican war, and his surviving brother, Dennis, never ceased boasting of Tim's exploits. "Och murder," says he, "you ought to have seen Tim at Rye-sack a dollar pole me (meaning Resaca de la Palma). He caught two Mexican black-guards by the cuffs of their necks and killed them both as dead as herrings by knocking their heads together."

How could that be," said the listener, "when your brother had but one arm?" "Bless your soul," said Dennis, "one arm had he? That's true enough for ye, but then, ye see, Tim forgot all about that when he got into a fight."

An agonizing story is told of a vain New York young lady, who, dissatisfied with her good but irregular teeth, had them all pulled out to make room for a new and false set. In vain the dentist wished to spare her eye-teeth. She would have them out. Nervous prostration followed the operation, and she died a victim to her pride, and leaving the set of false teeth she had ordered uncalled for.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA.

A business letter from the accomplished President of this institution informs the *Columbian Enquirer* that this University, opened with a considerable number of students, and that everything bids fair for a most successful session. This will be gratifying to Georgians especially, who should all feel an interest in its success and prosperity.

FIRE IN HAMBURG.

A fire broke out this morning, between 1 and 2 o'clock, in the row of wooden buildings, situated on River street, Hamburg, near the bridge, which destroyed, in a short time, seven or eight of the buildings.—*Augusta Constitutionalist.* 28th.

A despatch from Washington states that the reconstruction committee of fifteen have agreed to report in favor of a constitutional amendment allowing Congress to regulate the elective franchise within the States.

The bridges on the Western and Atlantic Railroad have been repaired. Cars passed through to Chattanooga on the 3d, and trains are now running regularly as heretofore between Atlanta and Chattanooga.

In Alabama, this week, a law goes into effect prohibiting any person of color from owning or carrying a firearm, under a penalty of three months imprisonment and \$100 fine.

All the funds of the Republic are said to have been turned over to Gen. Seward, with the understanding that he shall expend the same for the purchase of arms.

The general statement throughout the country appears to be that while contracts are being entered into for the supply of labor, the negroes will be wanted.

LIFE IN BRAZIL.

Immediately after the termination of the war, a number of Confederate officers left the South with the view of finding a home in Brazil. This fever of emigration to Brazil still exists in some parts of the South, and on this account the following notes of travel in Brazil, written by an ex-Confederate, possesses a peculiar interest at this time. The observations are as gathered in the country in the month of July.

*** We have arrived at our port of destination, Rio Janeiro. We find the weather is not very hot here, as we feared—it is about like that of Virginia in June. There is a fine breeze here; the nights are quite cool. Went to the police office and got our passports, which was sent there by the officials on the steamer; all passengers are required to be revised by these functionaries. Last night we went to the theatre. It was all in Language unknown to us, but the dancing and acting were interesting.

About two or three miles from Rio Janeiro is situated the Emperor's Palace. It is on a high elevation with magnificent walks, arbors, etc., surrounding it. As we passed along we saw coffee plantations on all sides. One coffee tree yields from twenty to one hundred pounds of coffee. The berries are green, red and black in the same cluster, which resemble our cherry somewhat. The country is very mountainous. The coffee, sugar cane and corn fields are on hills nearly perpendicular. They never use plows to till the land, but simply the common hoe. Some of the plantations turn out from \$100,000 to \$150,000 worth of coffee per annum, and have as many as three thousand negroes. We see any quantity of oranges and bananas growing.

The scenery going over the mountains is grand, and the finest I have ever seen. The railroad is completed about one hundred miles from Rio, and to enable the company to use it, they have built a temporary road over this mountain, while the tunnel is building.

The system of slavery in this country is of the hardest kind. You see all the negroes that have been brought from Africa have their faces horribly gashed more or less. It was done in Africa, to distinguish what tribe they belong to. Those born here have not these marks. It is some fifteen or twenty years since the slave trade was stopped here; but frequently they are run into the country. The worst and most repulsive part of the custom is, that where a negro is found free or emancipated, he is allowed to associate by marriage and otherwise with the first in the Empire. It is laughable to see both sexes of negroes going through the streets singing and talking to themselves, generally in their native tongue. As a general thing, they have loads on their heads, ranging from a diamond pin to a sack of coffee, as well as large round baskets filled with various articles; or, in some instances, five or six empty flour barrels.

They have extensive markets here, well supplied with all kinds of fruit, fish, poultry, vegetables, etc. The fowls are very large—chickens as large as our turkeys, ducks as large as our geese; turkeys weigh from 20 to 30 pounds.

The currency here is called copper coin, which is forty reis, the size of a Canada copper. Twenty-five dumps are one millreis, making 1000 reis for one millreis. A contey is 10,000 millreis, or say \$500.

We had our hands full looking around, and expect to be kept busy while here.

The Brazilian ladies, if such they can be called, go about in a half-naked condition.

The authorities are very anxious, and hold out every inducement to emigrants.

MODERN WISDOM.—I have finally come to the conclusion that there ain't truth enuff in the world, just now, to do the business with, and if sum kind-uv compromise can't be had, the devil might as well step in and run the concern at onst.

Don't tell the world yure sorrows, enny more than you would tell them yure shame.

Philosophers are like graveyards—they take all things just as they cum, and give them a decent burial, and a suitable epitaph.

Enny body can tell where lightning struck last, but it takes a smart man to find out where it is going to strike next time—this is one of the differences between learning and wisdom.

Gettin' lay the bed for the purpose of dandin' the bottom—not for the purpose of coverin' the top—is just as well as any thing that can be done for the purpose of makin' a bed.

It is a good thing to have a good learning and a good memory, but it is a better thing to have a good heart and a good conscience.

It is a good thing to have a good head and a good heart, but it is a better thing to have a good soul and a good conscience.

"He can't marry"—and the little luscious, cherry lips playfully pouted—half in scorn and half in contempt—yet with an amusing earnestness that plainly showed the fair speaker was interested. And why not so? but the speaker could not tell. Now, I ask, Why don't he marry? Will not some one give a reason! Only six hundred dollars a year, and not enough to struggle on! He prates of happiness and quotes from Byron—gives costly presents and lavishes his little all on mere nothings—takes his Cubas and his wine—and yet, he can't marry. Can't live for an object. Can't have some one to take care of him and his money. Can't have the bright eyes that he so much longs for, to watch his coming, and look brighter when he comes. No, no, it is foolishly ridiculous to hear a man say so, yet, terribly cutting when spoken in contempt by a lovely woman. But why? Simply because it is too strange to believe when one, who pretends to be a man, so speaks. Can't possess himself of offered happiness. Cannot take a home and an object that would make his darkest hours as sunshine. We don't believe it. Girls, let's put him up at auction. How much will you bid for him—only a button—can't dwell—must sell—no rise—knock him down—who is the unhappy purchaser? Young man, take friendly advice. Dare fortune with a fair being at your side, to cheer and encourage you. You can, will, and must succeed. Remain alone and when age shall weary your now strong limbs and the adversities of life break your spirit—then will you say in the bitterness of your soul, "Why didn't I marry?"

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

The first National Bank of Charleston was duly organized to-day. An election for officers to serve for twelve months, from the 9th inst., according to the provisions of the charter, when the following gentlemen were elected as the Board of Directors: Andrew Simonds, W. L. Tenholm, Archibald Getty, George W. Williams, E. W. Marshall, David Jennings, M. C. Mordecai. This is a very strong board; all of the parties well known and of leading influence. At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, Mr. Andrew Simonds was unanimously elected President, and W. C. Breeze the Cashier. The bank has already commenced business and is in active working operation. It will bank according to law and the charter, upon the United States currency. Every dollar of the required capital has been paid in, and from the acknowledged ability of the direction and its officers, we have every reason to hope that the institution will most efficiently subserve the best interest of the city and the country.—*Charleston News.*

IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY COURTESY.

Family intimacy should never make brothers and sisters forget to be polite and sympathizing to each other. Those who contract thoughtless and rude habits towards the members of their own family, will be rude and thoughtless to all the world. But let the family intercourse be true, and the manners of all uniformly gentle and considerate, and the members of the family thus trained, will carry into the world and society, the habits of their childhood. They will require in their associates, similar qualities; they will not be satisfied without mutual esteem and the cultivation of the best affections, and their own character will be sustained by that faith in goodness which belongs to a mind exercised in pure and high thoughts.

THADDEUS STEVENS AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

It is plain from indications that have reached us, that from some cause the Republican party of the North is not yet prepared to follow the lead of Thaddeus Stevens in his onslaught upon the reconstruction policy of President Johnson. We notice that not a single leading journal of Stevens' party is willing to give anything like an unqualified endorsement to his savage speech of Monday week. On the contrary, the New York Tribune, the New York Times, the Philadelphia Press, the Washington Chronicle and the Washington National Republican, all express disgust at his violent views, and show a disposition to support the policy of the President. The immense patronage vested in the wedge has occasioned this rather serious split amongst the Radicals.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

Judge Beards of the United States District Court for Alabama, has decided the test oath unconstitutional as to members of the legal profession. The *Montgomery Mail*, in commenting thereon, says: Judge Beards is making his decision, has come up to the high expectations of the people of Alabama. A Federal Government, a judge of the Republican party, a man whose every word is law, and whose every action is a precedent, has decided that the test oath is unconstitutional. It is a good thing to have a good learning and a good memory, but it is a better thing to have a good heart and a good conscience.

THE BRIDAL WREATH AND THE SEXTON'S SHOVEL.

In Paris, Illinois, while the New Year was scarce twelve hours old, a party assembled to witness the solemn sacrament which united two young and loving hearts in the holy bonds of matrimony. Robed in garments of spotless white—fit emblems of purity, innocence and hope—happy and joyous, but with a timorous fluttering of the heart, as she made the responses which for all time, for better or for worse, invested her with the joys and sorrows of wifehood, and gave her happiness, her very being, into another's keeping, the young girl was wedded. Behind was the careless, light hearted gaiety of girlhood. Before, fraught with the mixed ill and good of human life—the cup of wedded love filled to the brim with such happiness unalloyed as angels feel, or the bitter draught of sickness, misery, death. Love threw a golden halo over the prospect, and the young bride's look into the dim future was a dream of rose-colored bliss. All "went merry as marriage bell," and there was feasting and flirting, congratulations and kissing of the bride. In the adjoining building a human soul was passing through the dark valley in which flows the river of death, whose waters all must cross who journey to the bright land on the hither side, where the weary are at rest. Full of years and honors, the widow of a pioneer, a devoted Christian a mother whose children and grandchildren had grown up around her honored members of society, she had fulfilled her mission, "acted well her part," and was ready for the summons.

Another pioneer lady, accompanied by her grand-daughter, sought the house of mourning to comfort her dying friend in her last dread trial. Age had silvered her hair and dimmed the brightness of her eye, but the fire of early friendship still burned brightly on the altar of her heart. With slow and tottering steps she approached the door, behind which her friend is calmly breathing her life away. Her trembling hands grasp the knocker, but just about the time the minister had pronounced the last words of the ceremony which made Miss Jennie Hart, a wife, and while the spirit of Mrs. Alexander plumes its wings for the celestial flight, the aged and sympathizing visitor Mrs. Sandford, falls dead at the threshold, stricken by one of those mysterious darts with which death delights to surprise his victim.

Mrs. Alexander was the widow of General M. K. Alexander one of the early pioneers of Edgar county. Mrs. Sandford was the widow of Mr. Isaac Sandford, a wealthy and influential citizen, who settled in Edgar about the same time that Genl. Alexander did. The two deaths, in connection with the wedding, from rather a curious and suggestive combination of circumstances.

FALSE RUMOR ABOUT FRANCE—THE SITUATION.

The intimation that an understanding had been effected between the United States and France in regard to Mexican matters is wholly unfounded. The last phase of the affair was the proposition of the French Emperor to our Government to recognize Maximilian's Government as a *de facto* one. Secretary Seward's letter in reply, which the President endorsed, flatly refused such recognition, and gave the reasons therefor at length, bringing a rejoinder from the French Government. Until it is received, there will be nothing done by our Government beyond sitting out Mr. Campbell as Minister to the Republic.

A Western paper gives the following notice:

All notices of marriage, where no bridecake is sent, will be set up in small type, and poked into some outlandish corner of the paper. Where a handsome piece of cake is sent it will be put conspicuously in large letters; when gloves or other bride favors are added, a piece of illustrative poetry will be given in addition. When, however, the editor attends the ceremony in *propria persona*, and kisses the bride, it will have special notice—very large type, and the most appropriate poetry that can be begged, borrowed, stolen, or coined from the brains of editorial.

WIFE.

There is no combination of letters in the English language which excites more pleasing and interesting associations in the mind of man than the word *Wife*. It presents to the mind's eye a cheerful companion, a disinterested adviser, a nurse in sickness, a comforter in misfortune, and an ever affectionate companion. It conjures up the image of a lovely woman who cheerfully undertakes to console and to your happiness, to make you a better man, and to make you a better father.

FACTS AND FREAKS OF CURRENCY.

Many things have been used at different times as money—cowrie shells in Africa; wampum by the American Indians; cattle by ancient Greece.

The Carthaginians used leather as money, probably bearing some mark or stamp. Frederick II., at the siege of Milan, issued stamped leather as money.

In 1560, John the Good, King of France who was taken prisoner by the celebrated Black Prince, and sent to England until ransomed, also issued leather money, having a silver nail in the centre.

Salt is the common money in Abyssinia; codfish in Iceland and Newfoundland.

"Living money," slaves and oxen, passed current with Anglo Saxons, in payment of debts.

Adam Smith says that in his day there was a village in Scotland where it was not uncommon for workmen to carry nails instead of money to the baker's shop and the ale house.

Marco Polo found, in China, money made of the bark of the mulberry tree, bearing the stamp of the sovereign, which it was death to counterfeit.

Tobacco was generally used as money in Virginia up to 1660, fifty-seven years after the foundation of that colony.

In 1641, the Legislature of Massachusetts enacted that wheat should be received in payments of all debts.

The convention of France, during the revolution, on the proposition of Jean-Bon Saint Andree, long discussed the propriety of adopting wheat as money, as the measure of value of all things.

But the metals best adapted and most generally used as coin, are copper, nickel, silver and gold; the first two being now used for coins of small value, to make change; the two latter, commonly designated "the precious metals," are used as measures of value and legal tenders.

On the continent of Europe, a composition of silver and copper, called bullion, has long been used for small coins, which are made current at a much higher value than the metal they contain. In China, Sycee silver is the principal currency, and is merely ingot silver of a uniform fineness, paid and received by weight. Spanish dollars also circulate there, but only after they have been assayed and stamped as a proof that they are of the standard fineness.

As Asia Minor produced gold, its earliest coin was that metal.

Greece and Sicily possessing copper, bronze was first coined there.

Herodotus says the Lydians were the first people known to have coined gold and silver. They had gold coin at the close of the ninth century B. C.; Greece proper only at the close of the eighth century, B. C.

Servius Tullius, King of Rome, made the pound weight of copper current money.

The Romans first coined silver 251 B. C., and gold 207 B. C.—*Eoram on Money.*

LARGE MEN OF WESTERN VERMONT, OHIO, AND KENTUCKY.

Dr. O. W. Holmes, the distinguished poet and author, also endorses the limestone theory. He says: "In Kentucky, Ohio, and Western Vermont, men grow to larger size because of the limestone under the soil."

The character of the earlier settlers of these countries, and the habits of life which they were necessarily compelled to adopt, had much more to do with their physical development than the limestone that underlies those States. Kentucky was first settled by men from Virginia, the hardest among the inhabitants of the old Commonwealth—men who possessed unusual resolution and strength of bodily constitution. They traveled seven or eight hundred miles without roads through an unbroken wilderness, inhabited only by wild beasts and savage Indians. Men of such a stamp, arriving in a new and perfectly wild country, were compelled to adopt the most simple and most natural habits of life, living in well ventilated cabins, and whose daily bill of fare was corn bread, and the wild meat of the country, and with abundance of labor in the open air. These simple habits of life, practised by such a hardy stock, could not fail to give to their offspring great size and the most perfect physical development. Thus for two generations the men of Kentucky surpassed in size and physical endurance those of any other State. But at this time but few of these large men are to be seen—a mere remnant of a former generation remains.

The average height of the men in the interior of Ohio is five feet ten and a half inches, five inches above that of the Belgians, two and a half inches above that of the English recruits, and one and a half inches above that of the Scotch Highlanders. Of the two hundred and thirty individuals taken promiscuously for measurement fifty-nine (one fourth) were six feet two inches. The great size of the Vermonters may safely, I think, be attributed to the character of the country and climate, which are favorable to industry and simple habits of living.

ST. FRANCIS' BUCHANAN.

In his recent book in defence of his administration, on destined to prove that he labored, by the wise economy of his administration, to correct the evils which the United States had suffered in common with all other powers, from the effects of the American Revolution. He claims that the United States, under his administration, were the only nation in the world which had not suffered from the effects of the American Revolution.